



Indiana Crop & Weather Report

United States Dept of Agriculture

Indiana Agricultural
Statistics

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 29

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

a few farmers were harvesting some early maturing corn fields in the southwestern region of the state, according to Indiana Agricultural Statistics. Most of the early planted corn fields are rapidly advancing toward maturity. Early planted soybean fields are beginning to turn color and leaves are dropping in many fields. Most areas received rain with heavy amounts occurring in some isolated areas. Pondering was evident in some fields.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.6 **days suitable for fieldwork**. Ninety-six percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dough** stage compared with 81 percent last year and 92 percent for the average. Sixty-seven percent of the corn acreage has reached the **dent** stage compared with 35 percent last year and 60 percent for the average. Fourteen percent of the corn acreage is **mature** (safe from frost) compared with 2 percent last year and 9 percent for the average. Corn **condition** is rated 78 percent good to excellent compared with 56 percent last year at this time.

Ninety-eight percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 90 percent last year and 95 percent for the average. Twelve percent of the soybean acreage is **shedding leaves** compared with 5 percent last year and 10 percent for the average. Soybean **condition** is rated 72 percent good to excellent compared with 56 percent last year at this time.

Third cutting of **alfalfa hay** is 78 percent complete compared with 66 percent last year and 81 percent for the average. **Tobacco** harvest is 19 complete compared with 21 percent last year and 30 percent for the average.

Other activities during the week were repairing equipment, mowing roads, attending FSA offices, hauling manure and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 15 percent excellent, 53 percent good, 24 percent fair, 7 percent poor and 1 percent very poor. Livestock are in mostly good condition.

CROP PROGRESS TABLE

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
Percent				
Corn in Dough	96	90	81	92
Corn in Dent	67	52	35	60
Corn Mature	14	7	2	9
Soybeans Podding	98	95	90	95
Soybeans Shedding Lvs	12	NA	5	10
Alfalfa Third Cutting	78	64	66	81
Tobacco Harvested	19	NA	21	30

CROP CONDITION TABLE

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	2	5	15	51	27
Soybean	4	6	18	51	21
Pasture	1	7	24	53	15

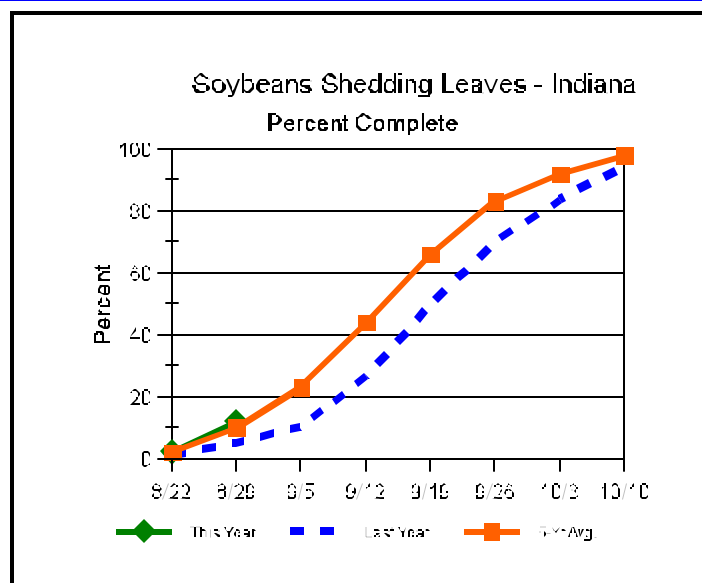
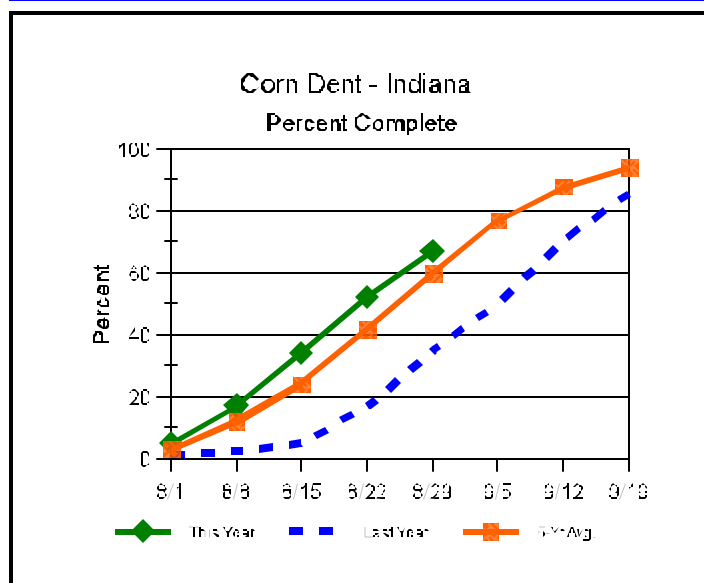
SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK TABLE

	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	3	4
Short	5	19	29
Adequate	75	71	49
Surplus	20	7	18
Subsoil			
Very Short	1	3	4
Short	10	19	25
Adequate	78	75	60
Surplus	11	3	11
Days Suitable	3.6	5.0	5.5

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Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Plant Diseases: Northern Corn Leaf Blight on Corn

☎ An old foe is making a comeback.

Northern corn leaf blight is one of several diseases that kill corn leaves prematurely. Northern corn leaf blight can be found some fields nearly every year, but usually it is not severe enough to be of concern. This year I have seen, and have received several reports of extensive blighting of leaves on some corn hybrids due to northern corn leaf blight.

Lesions of northern corn leaf blight on a susceptible hybrid are fairly easy to recognize. They are large—up to 6 inches or more long and 1 inch wide—and taper at each end. They are tan, but when air is humid may have a dull green cast.

Like several other common leaf blighting diseases of corn, the northern corn leaf blight fungus, *Exserohilum turcicum*, overwinters in residue of corn infected the previous year. In the spring and early summer, the fungus produces spores on this residue. Wind blows these spores around and those that land on growing corn can infect and cause disease. Initial lesions develop on lower leaves. Once a dead lesion develops on a leaf, the fungus will produce spores there, and these can infect more leaf tissue. Over time, the disease progresses up the plant, killing tissue on leaves above the ear. The dull green cast on lesions is because of the spores of the fungus on the lesion surface. Moderate temperatures (65° to 80° F) and long dew periods favor infection.

Most hybrids have a partial resistance to northern corn leaf blight that restricts lesion size and reduces the number of spores the fungus can produce on a lesion. This slows down the spread of the blight so that the amount of leaf tissue destroyed is not enough to reduce yield much if any. This is why, even though the fungus is widespread in Indiana, we don't usually see much damage from northern corn leaf blight.

This year, a lot of leaf tissue on some hybrids, particularly in central and northern Indiana, is blighted. These hybrids evidently do not have enough resistance to retard the spread of the disease. If grain in these fields is now in the dough stage, the reduction in yield may not be great, but there will probably be some loss. Damage from northern corn leaf blight depends on how much leaf tissue is destroyed at a given stage of kernel development. Kernels on severely affected plants may not fill completely.

It's far too late to consider any remedial action, i.e., application of a fungicide. Nonetheless, growers should check their fields for leaf blight. If it is severe and if yield and grain quality are not what would be expected, a grower might want to use a more resistant hybrid in the future. It is impossible to say whether northern corn leaf blight will be a problem next year, but if a field is severely diseased this year, there will be a lot of overwintering fungus, and so a lot of inoculum next year.

—Gregory Shaner, Purdue University

Weather Information Table

Week ending Sunday August 29, 2004

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air					Avg		April 1, 2004 thru				
	Temperature			Precip.		4 in		August 29, 2004				
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Soil	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
								Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	88	51	74	+4	5.21	5	72	28.70	+9.77	54	2377	-158
Valparaiso_AP_I	84	59	73	+4	2.93	4		19.63	+0.04	62	2244	-72
Wanatah	86	49	71	+4	4.38	5	75	21.17	+2.09	65	2093	-124
Wheatfield	86	50	72	+4	4.94	6		35.18	+16.57	67	2192	-78
Winamac	85	52	73	+5	3.64	5	71	27.16	+8.28	67	2279	-60
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	86	56	72	+3	3.42	5		24.57	+5.51	67	2208	-244
South_Bend	87	59	74	+5	2.84	5		21.40	+3.00	70	2343	+38
Young_America	89	56	74	+5	2.68	4		25.48	+7.41	60	2392	-12
Northeast (3)												
Columbia_City	85	54	73	+6	2.65	3	72	24.21	+6.03	69	2195	-4
Fort_Wayne	87	56	75	+5	1.08	2		23.90	+6.88	63	2374	-33
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	87	54	74	+2	1.91	4		22.32	+1.02	62	2378	-328
Perrysville	89	56	75	+5	3.18	3	79	20.97	+0.67	50	2600	+74
Spencer_Ag	87	57	75	+5	2.80	4		26.82	+5.00	66	2556	+5
Terre_Haute_AFB	88	57	77	+6	1.42	3		17.75	-2.41	58	2768	+77
W_Lafayette_6NW	87	54	74	+5	1.41	3	78	22.68	+3.80	48	2392	-2
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	87	59	76	+5	1.02	3		18.83	-0.24	60	2665	-5
Greenfield	86	57	74	+4	2.73	3		22.50	+1.53	60	2528	-32
Indianapolis_AP	87	61	76	+5	2.56	4		26.37	+7.30	55	2762	+92
Indianapolis_SE	87	58	75	+4	2.33	3		22.36	+2.64	53	2551	-104
Tipton_Ag	86	53	73	+5	1.17	3	76	20.56	+1.38	60	2317	-9
East Central (6)												
Farmland	88	55	74	+6	1.27	3	70	21.23	+2.64	60	2359	+88
New_Castle	84	53	71	+3	0.52	3		22.60	+2.38	48	2096	-231
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	91	61	78	+5	2.80	3		22.61	+3.44	51	3129	+32
Freelandville	88	57	76	+4	2.61	4		23.04	+3.02	53	2801	+22
Shoals	89	58	77	+5	2.05	5		25.15	+3.42	58	2799	+110
Stendal	90	58	77	+4	4.00	4		24.33	+2.78	53	2985	+65
Vincennes_5NE	89	61	77	+5	2.29	5	75	23.55	+3.53	64	2916	+137
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	88	58	76	+5	3.58	5		31.78	+9.50	62	2837	+161
Oolitic	87	56	75	+5	2.26	5	76	25.61	+4.63	63	2645	+71
Tell_City	91	60	78	+5	5.19	3		30.22	+8.23	53	3202	+235
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	91	56	76	+6	1.33	3		18.63	-1.75	50	2681	+237
Milan_5NE	88	57	75	+5	1.34	5		25.75	+5.37	82	2630	+186
Scottsburg	89	53	75	+3	1.48	4		32.83	+12.18	57	2747	-18

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

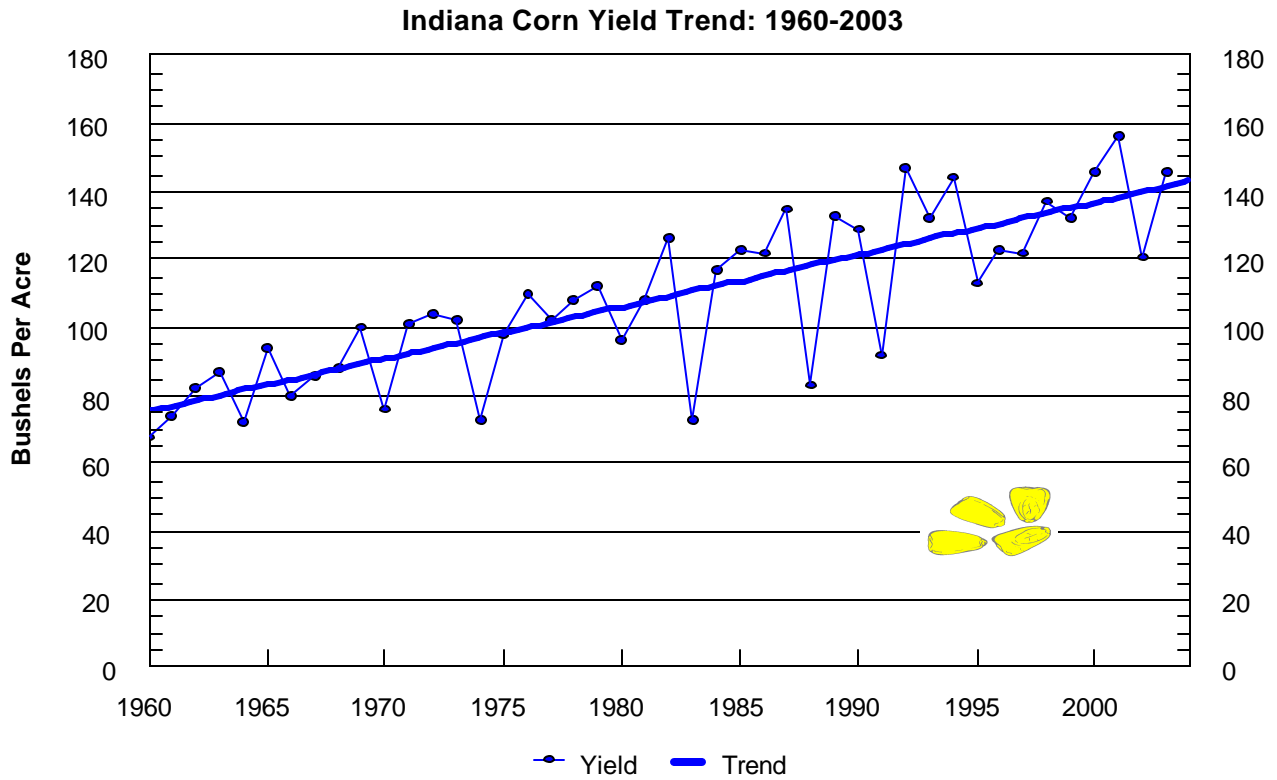
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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Corn Yield Trend



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